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Patent

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application. Claims 1-10 and 15-23 were pending. Claims 1, 5, and 15 have been amended. Claims 6-7, 16, and 20-23 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1-5, 8-10, 15, and 17-19 remain pending.

Claims 7 and 16 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicant has amended the respective base claims of claims 7 and 16, i.e., claims 5 and 15, to include substantially all the limitations of claims 7 and 16, respectively, and their respective intervening claims, if any. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 5 and 15 as amended are now in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-6, 8-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,157,688 of Tamura, et al. ("Tamura"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claim 1 as amended sets forth a resistor coupled to the inductor in series and a plurality of transmission lines coupled to the inductor in series. In contrast, Tamura fails to disclose at least the above limitations. Tamura discloses an inductor coupled to a transmission line in series (Tamura, Figure 7, reference numerals 214 and 215). Tamura does not disclose, suggest, or imply a resistor coupled to the inductor in series. For at least this reason, Tamura fails to anticipate claim 1. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

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Claims 2-4 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 1. Thus, having additional limitations, claims 2-4 are not anticipated by Tamura. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 5 is allowable for the reason discussed above.

Claim 6 has been canceled without prejudice, thus obviating the rejection. Note that Applicant has canceled claim 6 without prejudice solely for the purpose of expediting the issuance of a patent. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the subject matter claimed in claim 6 in a continuation application

Claims 8-9 depend from claim 5. Thus, having additional limitations, claims 8-9 are not anticipated by Tamura.

Claims 15, 17-21, and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,745,268 of Greff, et al. ("Greff"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

For the reason discussed above, claim 15 is now in condition for allowance. Furthermore, claims 17-19 depend directly from claim 15. Thus, having additional limitations, claims 17-19 are not anticipated by Greff. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 20-21 and 23 have been canceled without prejudice, thus obviating the rejection. Note that Applicant has canceled claims 20-21 and 23 without prejudice solely for the purpose of expediting the issuance of a patent. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the subject matter claimed in claims 20-21 and 23 in a continuation application.

Claims 4, 10, and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,157,688 of Tamura, et al. ("Tamura") and by U.S. Patent No. 6,745,268 of Greff, et al ("Greff"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

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Claim 4 depends from claim 1, and thus, having additional limitations, claim 4 is patentable over Tamura and Greff for the reason discussed above with respect to claim 1. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 10 depends from claim 5, and thus, having additional limitations, claim 10 is patentable over Tamura and Greff for the reason discussed above with respect to claim 5. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 22 has been canceled without prejudice, thus obviating the rejection. Note that Applicant has canceled claim 22 without prejudice solely for the purpose of expediting the issuance of a patent. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the subject matter claimed in claim 22 in a continuation application.

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CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections have been overcome by the remarks and amendments, and that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the rejections be withdrawn and the pending claims be allowed.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a)(3), Applicant hereby requests and authorizes the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to (1) treat any concurrent or future reply that requires a petition for extension of time as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time and (2) charge all required fees, including extension of time fees and fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17, to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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